

**United States Patent** [19]  
**Fried et al.**

[54] **DENTAL IMPLANTS AND METHODS FOR  
EXTENDING SERVICE LIFE**

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[57] ABSTRACT

An implant has a proximal protrusion that is distinctly non-round even in a worn state, e.g. square in cross section, and may include radial slots for use in threading the implant into the jaw bone. No forces need be applied directly to the protrusion's external surfaces when inserting the slotted implant for subsequent osseointegration.

11 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets